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## Slovakia

**Post:** Prague

# Flood damage to exceed EURO 100 million

### **Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed

Oilseeds and Products

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### **Report Highlights:**

Nearly fifteen percent of the agricultural land in Slovakia was damaged during the recent floods. Total losses, including damaged crops, real estate, buildings, farm mechanical and capital investments is expected to exceed 100 million EUR.

#### **General Information:**

As a result of floods that were caused by extremely heavy rainfalls in May and June, almost 300,000 hectares of agricultural land in Slovakia were damaged, according to the Slovak Agrarian and Food Industry Chamber. The estimates are based on reports from district offices of the Chamber of June 9, 2010. Most affected were the eastern and southern regions of Slovakia.

The 300,000 ha of damaged agricultural land, which represent approximately 15% of total agricultural land in Slovakia, consisted of:

- 225,000 ha arable land
- nearly 49,000 ha permanent grass land
- 22,000 ha of other, so called LFA least favored or small plots which could not be sown
- and the rest were **fruit orchards**, **vineyards**, and **vegetable** plots

Damages were reported by 636 farms, 52 out of them reported harvest losses of 70%. The most damaged crops are **grains** with losses of:

- 59.000 ha of wheat
- 41,000 ha of corn
- 28,000 ha of barley

Floods also damaged **oilseeds, submerging** 26,000 ha of rapeseed and 15,000 ha of sunflowers. Dry fodder (alfalfa and hay) crops were lost on another 31,000 hectares of arable land. Several farms report fodder shortages for their animals.

Many farmers will have to deal with not only lost crops but some of their real estate, buildings, mechanical and capital investments were damaged, as well. The Agrarian and Food Industry Chamber will be lobbying hard for the government to adopt measures so farmers can get part of the their compensation before harvest. The total losses of agrarian sector are estimated at over 100 million EUR.

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Source: sppk.sk